

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for identifying a record with valid address information, but invalid name information, comprising:

obtaining a record containing a name and an address;

determining if the address is in a set of known addresses by calculating a weighted address value for the address and comparing the weighted address value with a predetermined threshold address value, the weighted address value being calculated using the formula:

$$\underline{WNV = (W1 \cdot V1) + (W2 \cdot V2) + \dots + (Wn \cdot Vn)}$$

where WAV is the weighted address value, W(1,...n) is the weight assigned to components of the address and V(1,...n) is a value assigned to components of the address, V(1,...n) being assigned a value of 1 if the component matches a corresponding component of an address in the set of known addresses, 0 if the component is not found in the set of known addresses and -1 if the component does not match the corresponding component of the address in the set of known addresses; and

if the address of the obtained record is determined to be in the set of known addresses, determining if the name of the obtained record is in a subset of known names associated with the address by calculating a weighted name value for the name and comparing the weighted name value with a predetermined threshold name value.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising if the address is determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in the subset

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of known names associated with the address, marking the record as having valid address information, but invalid name information.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising preventing information from being mailed to the address of the marked record.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising removing the marked record from a database of records.

5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein weighted name value is calculated using the formula:

$$WNV = (W_1 \cdot V_1) + (W_2 \cdot V_2) + \dots + (W_n \cdot V_n)$$

where WNV is the weighted name value, $W(1, \dots, n)$ is the weight assigned to components of the name and $V(1, \dots, n)$ is a value assigned to components of the name.

6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein $V(1, \dots, n)$ is assigned a value of 1 if the component matches a corresponding component of a name in the subset of known names and 0 if the component does not match the corresponding component of the name in the subset of known names.

7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the name is determined to not be in the subset of known names associated with the known address if the weighted name value is less than the threshold name value.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising, if the address is determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in the subset of known names associated with the known address, marking the record as having valid address information, but invalid name information.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the obtained address is determined to be in the set of known addresses if the weighted address value for the address is less than a predetermined threshold address value.

13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising, if the address is determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in the subset of known names associated with the known address, marking the record as having valid address information, but invalid name information.

14. (Currently amended) A method for identifying records with valid address information, but invalid name information, comprising:

obtaining a record containing a name and an address;

determining if the address is in a set of known addresses by calculating a weighted address value for the address and comparing the weighted address value with a predetermined threshold address value, the weighted address value being calculated using the formula:

$$\underline{WNV = (W1 \cdot V1) + (W2 \cdot V2) + \dots + (Wn \cdot Vn)}$$

where WAV is the weighted address value, $W(1, \dots, n)$ is the weight assigned to components of the address and $V(1, \dots, n)$ is a value assigned to components of the address, $V(1, \dots, n)$ being assigned a value of 1 if the component matches a corresponding component of an address in the set of known addresses, 0 if the component is not found in the set of known addresses and -1 if

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the component does not match the corresponding component of the address in the set of known addresses; and

if the address of the obtained record is determined to be in the set of known addresses, determining if the name of the obtained record is in a subset of known names associated with the address using a heuristic.

15. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the heuristic comprises calculating a weighted name value for the name and comparing the weighted name value with a predetermined threshold name value.

16. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising if the address is determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in the subset of known names associated with the address, marking the record as having valid address information, but invalid name information.

17. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising preventing information from being mailed to the address of the marked record.

18. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising removing the marked record from a database of records.

19. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein weighted name value is calculated using the formula:

$$WNV = (W1 \cdot V1) + (W2 \cdot V2) + \dots + (Wn \cdot Vn)$$

where WNV is the weighted name value, $W(1, \dots, n)$ is the weight assigned to components of the name and $V(1, \dots, n)$ is a value assigned to components of the name.

20. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein $V(1, \dots, n)$ is assigned a value of 1 if the component matches a corresponding component of a name in the subset of known names and 0 if the component does not match the corresponding component of the name in the subset of known names.

21. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the name is determined to not be in the subset of known names associated with the known address if the weighted name value is less than the threshold name value.

22. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 21, further comprising, if the address is determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in the subset of known names associated with the known address, marking the record as having valid address information, but invalid name information.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the obtained address is determined to be in the set of known addresses if the weighted address value for the address is less than a predetermined threshold address value.

27. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 24, further comprising, if the address is determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in the subset of known names associated with the known address, marking the record as having valid address information, but invalid name information.

28. (Currently amended) A system for identifying a record with valid address information, but invalid name information, comprising:

means for obtaining a record containing a name and an address;

means for determining if the address is in a set of known addresses; and

~~means, if the address of the obtained record is determined to be in the set of known addresses,~~ for determining if the name of the obtained record is in a subset of known names associated with the address by calculating a weighted name value for the name and comparing the weighted name value with a predetermined threshold name value;

wherein the means for determining if the address is in a set of known addresses comprises means for calculating a weighted address value for the address and comparing the weighted address value with a predetermined threshold address value, the weighted address value being calculated using the formula:

$$\underline{WAV = (W1 \cdot V1) + (W2 \cdot V2) + \dots + (Wn \cdot Vn)}$$

where WAV is the weighted address value, W(1,...n) is the weight assigned to components of the address and V(1,...n) is a value assigned to components of the address, wherein V(1,...n) has a value of 1 if the component matches a corresponding component of an address in the set of known addresses, 0 if the component is not found in the set of known addresses and -1 if the component does not match the corresponding component of the address in the set of known addresses.

29. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 28, further comprising means for marking the record as having valid address information, but invalid name information if the address is determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in the subset of known names associated with the address.

30. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 29, further comprising means for preventing information from being mailed to the address of the marked record.

31. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 29, further comprising means for removing the marked record from a database of records.

32. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 28, wherein weighted name value is calculated using the formula:

$$WNV = (W1 \cdot V1) + (W2 \cdot V2) + \dots + (Wn \cdot Vn)$$

where WNV is the weighted name value, $W(1, \dots, n)$ is the weight assigned to components of the name and $V(1, \dots, n)$ is a value assigned to components of the name, wherein $V(1, \dots, n)$ is assigned a value of 1 if the component matches a corresponding component of a name in the subset of known names and 0 if the component does not match the corresponding component of the name in the subset of known names.

33. – 38. (Canceled)